

**Monitoring Our Progress**  
***Seattle's Comprehensive Plan***



**City of Seattle**



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This is the third in a series of reports that monitor changes in the Seattle urban environment since the 1994 adoption of the City's Comprehensive Plan. That Plan is a collection of goals and policies describing how the City will accommodate continued population and employment growth forecast for the coming 20 years.

These monitoring reports use a set of indicators to show whether the City is accommodating growth in the way the Plan anticipated.

The results are mixed, as these examples show:

- The City has taken just about the expected number of new households, but has added more people than were expected, because the average number of people in each household is higher than assumed.
- While higher percentages of Seattle residents are taking transit to work, we are well short of the Plan's goals for transit riders and for reducing the number of people who drive alone.
- Seattle is one of only a few cities in King County that is meeting the countywide goals for affordable housing. However, the city is further behind the rest of the county in the percentage of households who own their homes.

A companion document to this monitoring report will present the findings of case studies on five urban villages – locations where the City's Plan called for most of the expected new growth to be concentrated.

These reports provide background material for a discussion the City will engage in during an update of the Plan that state law requires by the end of 2004. The reports point out successes, but also raise questions about whether the City is taking the actions necessary to achieve the goals the Plan laid out, and whether the goals in that Plan are still ones the City wants to pursue.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, reading "Diane M. Sugimura". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Diane" and last name "Sugimura" clearly legible.

Diane M. Sugimura, Director  
Department of Design, Construction and Land Use

Indicator	Trend since 1994
<b><i>Community Indicators</i></b>	
Volunteering	➡
Open space	➡
Feeling safe in the neighborhoods	↗
Crime	↗
Home-ownership rate	↘
Number of households with children	↘
<b><i>Economic Opportunity and Security Indicators</i></b>	
Household income	↗
Education level of the population	↗
High school dropout rate	➡
Teen births	↗
Low-income housing units	↗
<b><i>Social Equity Indicators</i></b>	
Cost of housing	↘
Income distribution	➡
Population distribution by race	↗
Persons below poverty level	↗
Persons covered by health insurance	➡
<b><i>Environmental Stewardship Indicators</i></b>	
Water quality	➡
Air quality	➡
Tree coverage	↗
Energy consumption	➡
Water use	➡
Recycling	↘
Commuting to work	↗
Transit ridership	↗
Alternative transportation facilities	↗

↗ = Positive trend      ➡ = Little or no change      ↘ = Negative trend

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